Claims

[c1]   A method for operating a computer to conduct due diligence, said method comprising:

prompting a user to identify data to be used to form at least one standard documentation file;

prompting a user to identify at least one data collector to collect the identified data;

receiving and storing the identified data; and

generating at least one standard documentation file.

[c2]   A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of prompting a user to identify data to be used further comprises the step of identifying a time for collection of the identified data.

[c3]   A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of receiving and storing the identified data further comprises the step of storing the data in a database.

[c4]   A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of receiving and storing the identified data further comprises the step of evaluating the effectiveness of collection of the identified data.

[c5]   A method according to Claim 4 wherein said step of evaluating the effectiveness of collection comprises the step of determining a percentage of completion of the standard documentation file.

[c6]   A method according to Claim 5 wherein the percentage of completion is determined according to (number of items collected/number of total item collected)*100.

[c7]   A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of receiving and storing the identified data comprises the step of receiving the identified data from data collected during one of customer origination, auditing and underwriting and approval.

[c8]   A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of assembling at least one standard documentation file comprises the step of generating at least one of a pre-closing credit file and a legal documentation file.

[c9]   A method according to Claim 1 further comprising the step of transferring at least one standard documentation file to external deal teams.

[c10]   A method according to Claim 4 wherein said step of evaluating the effectiveness of collection of the identified data comprises the step of determining at least one of a percent of data passed between underwriting and legal, a percent of usable data provided by underwriting and approval and a present percent of completeness of the standard documentation file after each stage of due diligence.

[c11]   A method according to Claim 10 wherein the percent of data passed between underwriting and approval and legal is calculated according to (actual number of items in the standard documentation file divided by an.expected number of items in the standard documentation file) * 100.

[c12]   A method according to Claim 10 wherein the percent of usable data provided by underwriting and approval is calculated according to (an actual number of accurate documentation items divided by an expected number of documentation items) * 100.

[c13]   A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of receiving the identified data comprises the step of receiving the identified data via at least one of the Internet and an Intranet.

[c14]   A computer programmed to:
prompt a user to identify data to be used to form at least one standard documentation file;
prompt a user to identify at least one data collector to collect the identified data;
receive and store the identified data; and
generate at least one standard documentation file.

[c15]   A computer according to Claim 14 wherein to prompt a user to identify data to be used, said computer displays a computer generated screen prompting the user to identify a time for collection of the identified data.

[c16]   A computer according to Claim 14 configured to receive the identified data and store the identified data in a database.

[c17]   A computer according to Claim 14 configured to evaluate the effectiveness of collection of the identified data by determining a percentage of completion of the standard documentation file.

[c18]   A computer according to Claim 17 wherein the percentage of completion is determined according to (number of items collected/number of total item collected)*100.

[c19]   A computer according to Claim 14 wherein for a standard documentation file said computer configured to generate at least one of a pre-closing credit file and a legal documentation file.

[c20]   A computer according to Claim 17 wherein to evaluate the effectiveness of collection of the identified data, said computer is configured to determine at least one of a percent of data passed between underwriting and legal, a percent of usable data provided by underwriting and approval and a present percent of completeness of the standard documentation file after each stage of due diligence.

[c21]   A computer according to Claim 20 wherein said computer is configured to calculate the percent of data passed between underwriting and approval and legal according to (actual number of items in the standard documentation file divided by an expected number of items in the standard documentation file) * 100.

[c22]

        A computer according to Claim 20 wherein said computer is configured to calculate the percent of usable data provided by underwriting and approval according to (an actual number of accurate documentation items divided by

an expected number of documentation items) * 100.

[c23]   A database comprising:

data corresponding to at least one identified data collector;

data corresponding to a time for collection of identified data for a standard

documentation file; and

data corresponding to the standard documentation file.

[c24]   A database according to Claim 23 further comprising data corresponding to

an evaluation of the effectiveness of collected data.

[c25]   A database according to Claim 23 wherein said data corresponding to the

standard documentation file comprises data documenting a transaction.

[c26]   A database according to Claim 23 wherein said data corresponding to the

standard documentation file comprises data provided by external deal teams

and internal deal teams.

[c27]   A database according to Claim 23 further comprising data corresponding to

a percent completion of the standard documentation file.

[c28]   A database according to Claim 23 wherein said data corresponding to the

standard documentation file comprises at least one of data associating a

pre-closing file with an audit report, data regarding accounts receivable

aging and data relating to a top ten customers by sales volume.

[c29]   A database according to Claim 23 further comprising data corresponding to

a due diligence checklist.

[c30]   A system for conducting due diligence, said system comprising:

a database comprising data corresponding to a due diligence checklist;

a server configured to prompt a user to identify data that will be used to

form at least one standard documentation file, identify at least one data

collector to collect the identified data and to identify a time for collection of

the identified data.

[c31]   A system according to Claim 30 wherein said server configured to receive and store the identified data, evaluate the effectiveness of collection of the identified data and assemble the data into a standard documentation file stored in said database.

[c32]   A system according to Claim 31 wherein said server is configured to evaluate the effectiveness of collection of the identified data by determining one of present percent of completeness of the standard documentation file, percent of data passed between underwriting and approval and legal and the percent of usable data provided by underwriting and approval.

[c33]   A system according to Claim 32 wherein said server is further configured to determine a percent of completeness of the standard documentation file according to (number of items collected/number of total item collected) *100.

[c34]   A system according to Claim 32 wherein said server is further configured to determine a percent of data passed between underwriting and approval and legal according to (actual number of items in the standard documentation file divided by an expected number of items in the standard documentation file) * 100.

[c35]   A system according to Claim 32 wherein said server is further configured to determine a percent of usable data provided by underwriting and approval according to (an actual number of accurate documentation items divided by an expected number of documentation items) * 100.

[c36]   A system according to Claim 30 wherein said server is configured for assembling at least one standard documentation file using one of a document generating system or software and a data management software or system.

[c37]   A system according to Claim 30 wherein said server is configured for assembling one of a pre-closing credit file and a legal documentation file.

[c38]   A system according to Claim 30 wherein said server is configured to receive data via at least one of the Internet and an Intranet.

[c39]   A system according to Claim 30 wherein said server is configured to receive and store the data from data collected during one of customer origination, auditing and underwriting and approval.

[c40]   A system according to Claim 30 wherein said database comprises at least one of data corresponding to at least one identified collector, data corresponding to a time for collection of identified data for a standard documentation file, and data corresponding to the standard documentation file.

[c41]   A system according to Claim 40 wherein said database comprises data corresponding to an evaluation of effectiveness of collected data.

[c42]   A system according to Claim 40 wherein said database comprises data corresponding to a percent completion of the standard documentation file.

[c43]   A system according to Claim 40 wherein said data corresponding to the standard documentation file comprises data associating a pre-closing file with an audit report, data regarding accounts receivable aging and data relating to a top ten customers by sales volume.

[c44]   A method for conducting due diligence, said method comprising the steps of:
         selecting, from an electronic interface, data to be used to form at least one standard documentation file;
         selecting, from the electronic interface, at least one data collector to collect the data; and
         requesting, from the electronic interface, a standard documentation file.

[c45]   A method according to Claim 44 further comprising the step of selecting, from the electronic interface, a time for collection of identified data.

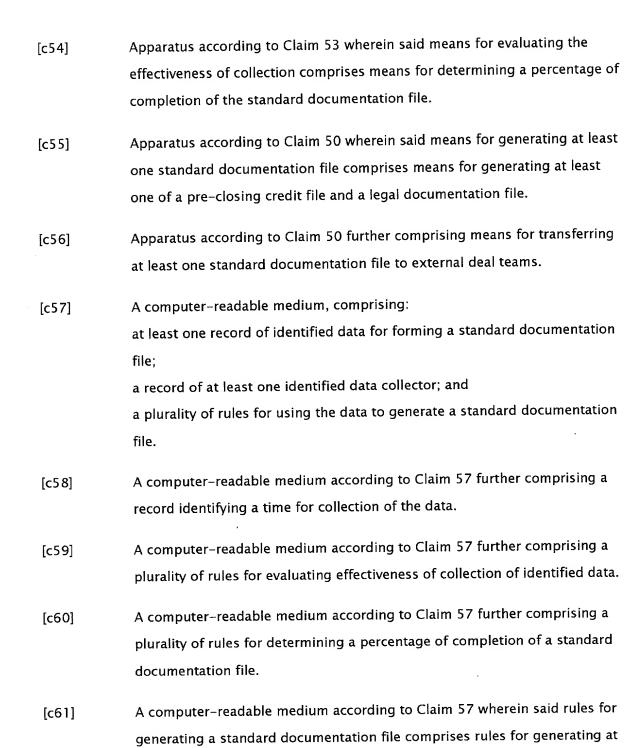[c46]   A method according to Claim 44 further comprising the step of requesting,

from the electronic interface, an evaluation of effectiveness of the collection of the identified data.

[c47]   A method according to Claim 46 wherein an evaluation of effectiveness comprises determining a percentage of completion of the standard documentation file.

[c48]   A method according to Claim 44 wherein said step of requesting a standard documentation file comprises the step of requesting, from the electronic interface, at least one of a pre-closing credit file and a legal documentation file.

[c49]   A method according to Claim 44 further comprising the step of requesting, from the electronic interface, that at least one standard documentation file be transferred to external deal teams.

[c50]   Apparatus comprising:
means for prompting a user to identify data to be used to form at least one standard documentation file;
means for prompting a user to identify at least one data collector to collect the identified data;
means for receiving and storing the identified data; and
means for generating at least one standard documentation file.

[c51]   Apparatus according to Claim 50 wherein said means for prompting a user to identify data to be used further comprises means for prompting a user to identify a time for collection of the identified data.

[c52]   Apparatus according to Claim 50 wherein said means for receiving and storing the identified data further comprises means for storing the data in a database.

[c53]   Apparatus according to Claim 50 wherein said means for receiving and storing the identified data further comprises means for evaluating the effectiveness of collection of the identified data.

[c54]   Apparatus according to Claim 53 wherein said means for evaluating the effectiveness of collection comprises means for determining a percentage of completion of the standard documentation file.

[c55]   Apparatus according to Claim 50 wherein said means for generating at least one standard documentation file comprises means for generating at least one of a pre-closing credit file and a legal documentation file.

[c56]   Apparatus according to Claim 50 further comprising means for transferring at least one standard documentation file to external deal teams.

[c57]   A computer-readable medium, comprising:
at least one record of identified data for forming a standard documentation file;
a record of at least one identified data collector; and
a plurality of rules for using the data to generate a standard documentation file.

[c58]   A computer-readable medium according to Claim 57 further comprising a record identifying a time for collection of the data.

[c59]   A computer-readable medium according to Claim 57 further comprising a plurality of rules for evaluating effectiveness of collection of identified data.

[c60]   A computer-readable medium according to Claim 57 further comprising a plurality of rules for determining a percentage of completion of a standard documentation file.

[c61]   A computer-readable medium according to Claim 57 wherein said rules for generating a standard documentation file comprises rules for generating at least one of a pre-credit closing file and a legal documentation file.